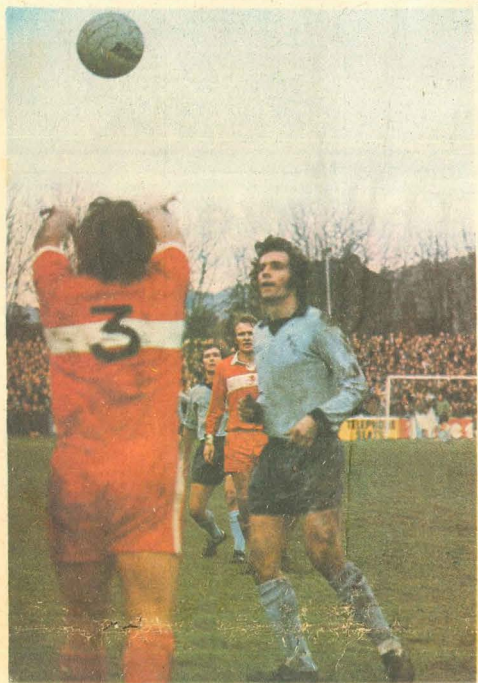


WYCOMBE WONDERS

Sunderland next after a miracle at Middlesbro'



WITH THEIR heads held high, knowing that they are the talk of the footballing world, a Wycombe Wanderers squad of 26, including 18 players flew up to Middlesbrough on Monday night for their third round F.A. Cup replay with the First Division side.

Wycombe Wanderers, or should it be Wycombe Wonders? For less than 48 hours previously they had staggered the world of sport by not only holding the second-placed Division One side to a goalless draw, but by outplaying them in the second half.

The Wanderers made the trip to the North East knowing that if they beat Middlesbrough, then Sunderland, who won the FA Cup in 1973, will be the fourth round visitors to Loakes Park.

The Wanderers stayed at the Tall Trees Hotel on Teesside on Monday night and had a work out on Middlesbrough's training ground on Tuesday morning.

After tonight's replay they come back home by coach and hope to be in Wycombe by five o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Saturday's match, no doubt about it, was the biggest thing that has happened to Wycombe in years. Television, sound radio and the national press descended on Loakes Park and the Wanderers earned Wycombe publicity by the ton.

They deserved every bit of it, and when it was all over the crowd went mad with joy.

So did Middlesbrough's manager, Jackie Charlton, with relief.

A credit to Wycombe

The match was well staged and there were few grumbles. Nearly 100 regular police, supported by squads of Special Constabulary, were on duty at the big match. But no incidents were reported. And the 'Black Maria,' standing by just in case, was not used.

"Everything went very smoothly," Supt. David Aspley, of High Wycombe police division, told Mid-week. "Everyone was well behaved. We were very pleased."

And ITV commentator Brian Moore said afterwards: "It was all a credit to Wycombe."

It was, and Mr. Moore hit the nail right on the head with this summing up.

Back to the big replay.

Hundreds of fans, preparing for the trek to Middlesbrough were angry that British Rail had not laid on a 'football special' for them.

The fans are making the 600 mile round trip in coaches and a fleet of private cars.

British Rail say that they could not provide a train because of staffing difficulties.

The fans' disappointment was shared by Wanderers' manager, Mr. Brian Lee.

"It is sad when so many people would like to see the replay that it is in midweek, and sad that those who could make the journey can't have a special train because there is no driver," he said.

A spokesman for British Rail pointed out that laying on a long distance train required not just one driver, but several crews.

"We would need four or five changes of crews in each direction on a run like this. Drivers must know the line and therefore can only drive in a limited area," he said.

"We would have been delighted to have been able to have helped and we wish the Wanderers all the very best," he added.

Frank Spraggon takes a throw-in policed by Wycombe's Keith Searle. Also in the picture are Middlesbrough's John Hickton and the Wanderers' Howard Kennedy. Hickton, a leading goal scorer for several seasons for the Borough, had a thin time of it against Wycombe's centre backs, Alan Phillips and Keith Mead. Colour pictures by Bob Mead.

- Sports Editor Stuart Earp is up at Middlesbro' for Tuesday's replay — full report in Friday's Free Press
- Report of the match of the year on Page 20
- Pictures, pictures, pictures of the big match — Pages 6 and 19 and more colour on the back
- There's more to follow on this great week for Wycombe football in Friday's Free Press

WYCOMBE YOUTH FOUND HANGED

AFTER being reported missing from his home, 17-year-old Paul Michael Savage, of Amersham Hill Gardens, High Wycombe, was found dead on Saturday hanging from a tree on farmland at Hughenden Valley.

Paul had been reported missing from home on January 1 and police had been carrying out a search for him.

Foul play is not suspected. The facts have been reported to the Coroner and an inquest is to be held.

THIEVES walked off with a wrought-iron front gate from the home of Mr. William D. Compton, 3 Pound Lane, Marlow, during the night between Saturday and Sunday.

The gate is worth £15. On Sunday Mrs. Compton rang the police station to report the other half of the gate was missing, but this was later recovered by officers.

A YOUNG schoolboy has his right leg broken and sustained serious head injuries after an accident involving a car when he was walking along the Marlow-Bourne End road near Sheepridge Lane, just before midnight on Friday. He is Michael Simmonds from Prossy Road, High Wycombe. Driver of the Austin Mini involved is

Mr. Ian Howard Bennings of Merton Road, Slough, Marlow Police are appealing for witnesses.

A QUANTITY of £5 notes estimated to be between £150 and £200 in total value, were stolen from a petty cash box at premises occupied by Messrs. P. B. Sherman (London) Ltd., at 6a The Green, Woburn Green. The theft took place between 4 p.m. on Thursday and 11 a.m. on Friday.

MR. SIDNEY BROWN, aged 54, collapsed and died on Sunday at his home at 340 Micklegate Road, High Wycombe.

GYPSIES GET A 'CLEAN UP' IN BRITISH ORDER

BEACONSFIELD District Council have failed in a court bid to get the Pyebush gypsy camp in Beaconsfield pronounced unfit for human habitation. They also failed to recoup the legal costs involving serving abatement orders and summonses on over 20 gypsies after their inspector had found conditions on the site a health hazard.

Eighteen gypsies were, however, ordered by Beaconsfield Magistrates on Thursday to comply with the requirements of the abatement orders and clean up the site within 14 days or face stiff financial penalties.

They were James Hanrahan, the occupier of a cream and brown caravan who gave his name as Jimmy Bottle, Luke Wall, Mary O'Brien, occupier of a small light green van, Joseph Byrne, Patrick O'Connor, William Barker, Miles Cash, Thomas Wall, Thomas Cash, Patrick Connors, Peter Wall, Ada Rooney, Felix Rooney, Michael McGuire, Don Murphy, Pat Ward, Summonses against Michael Wall, Eileen Cash and John Snot were withdrawn as they had left the district.

Mr. Robert Aram prosecuting, asked the magistrates to prohibit the use of caravans on the site at the present time if they found the site was unfit for human habitation.

Mr. Henry Compton, district public health inspector for the council, told the court that there were old and fresh vegetable peelings and faeces on the site, and on one occasion he had found the remains of a dead pony which had appeared to

have been eaten by dogs.

Nearby shrubs and bushes were being used regularly as latrines. Some effort had been made to reduce the nuisance since the abatement orders were served, but the site was still a health hazard. The site was not equipped to take caravans, he said, having no toilet facilities or water supply, and the caravans being placed too close together.

Only three of the eighteen defendants appeared in court. Mr. Patrick O'Connor, a resident on the site for nearly twelve months, said he used the field as a lavatory occasionally, but added that he dumped his own rubbish on the council tip. He complained of outside people tipping rubbish on the site from their caravans.

Mr. Thomas Wall, who has a family of nine including a wife and two teenage daughters, said he used the public toilets and always kept the site clean. He also had seen rubbish being dumped on the site by outsiders.

Mr. Felix Rooney said he had



ALL ACTION



The Free Press Adfene girls were again in action at the match. They led the cheers and also paraded the Killer Cup which the 'Free Press' presented to the Wanderers via Jackie Charlton, the Middlesbrough manager. And below, more action — Wycombe's Steve Perrin is faced by Frank Spraggon during an attack on the wing. Spraggon was led quite a dance.

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Pay £5 to park outside your own house

YOU MAY HAVE to pay to park outside your own house... It could cost as much as £5 to park outside your house after Bucks County Council Highways Sub Committee agreed in principle to allow permit parking.

The sub-committee were told that an administrative cost of £2 should be made but at least one member thought this sum too low.

Councillor Geoffrey Roberts proposed that £5 should be the cost of permit parking.

Free permit parking is already allowed in a few streets in Aylesbury.

Permit parking would allow frontage owners to park where there is little or no offstreet parking and where shoppers near

busy town centres often occupy available space, the sub-committee were told.

Residents in High Wycombe, Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross as well as other bus centres in the County asked the Council to consider permit parking.

The sub-committee readily accepted the proposal in principle but disagreed to the cost that should be made on permit holders.

"One of the disadvantages of permit parking schemes is the cost of administration and the work associated with it. A system of rebates would have to be set up, together with arrangements for issuing permits," the committee were told.

HAPPINESS IS A DRAW WITH MIDDLESBROUGH

And Big Jack is delighted to get away with it



SALUTE TO THE BRAVE

When the final whistle blew at Loakes Park on Saturday afternoon thousands of Wycombe fans surged onto the pitch to salute their heroes who had outplayed Middlesbrough champions of the second division of the Football League and runners up at present in Division One. Below, Adfene girls from the Free Press lead some of the cheers for Wycombe. The Free Press put up the "Killer Cup" to mark the giant killing exploits of the Wanderers.



WHAT THE CHAIRMAN SAW



Happiness, for Wycombe Wanderers is a draw with Middlesbrough in that breath-taking pulsating F.A. Cup third round tie before 12,000 fans at Loakes Park on Saturday. And not only did the amateurs draw, they only missed winning by inches. Asked Middlesbrough's boss Jack Charlton, "How much longer is there to go?" "Twenty five minutes," came the reply. "Good God, we'll never make it" he said.

But they hung on and that is why the Wanderers are on the way to Ayresome Park today, with the knowledge that if they win then Sunderland cup-holders of a season ago, will be due at Loakes Park at the end of the month.

Match of the year pictures by Bob Mead, Geoff Gomme and Alan Holmes.



Special dressing room picture of the most relieved man in High Wycombe, big Jack Charlton, ex England and Leeds United centre-half and the colourful manager of Middlesbrough. What did he think of the draw? He was delighted to get away with it. "When you come to Ayresome Park on Tuesday you will find plenty of open spaces and you'll have to run there" he quipped. But like the sportsman he is, big Jack was lavish in his praise of the Wanderers.



THE HAPPY WANDERER

A picture that hardly needs a caption to portray the spirit of a Happy Wanderer. And we have loads of them in these parts.



Wycombe Wanderers' chairman Jack Smethurst was in Wycombe hospital, in ward 6B, but he was able to watch the match with his wife and give his candid comments on steam radio. On the left this was the view he had from his commentary position.



Keith Searle goes flying while 'Boro full-back Frank Spraggon juggles with the ball



Middlesbrough full-backs Frank Spraggon (left) and John Craggs go up for the ball with Wycombe's Tony Horseman at one of the Blues' many corners during Saturday's match.



Dave Armstrong is beaten by Steve Perrin with Howard Kennedy (2nd left), Tony Horseman and Keith Searle in close support

TEL.: 3018



Wycombe Wanderer's centre-forward, Keith Searle, takes the ball across the field followed by Willie Maddren



Jim Platt stretches but fails to reach this Wycombe corner as Alan Phillips closes in



Wanderer's captain, Alan Phillips, goes sprawling after he had headed Wycombe's closest effort just past the post in the 70th minute.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	C	Pts
Enfield	22	19	1	2	48	13	58	94	2
Hudd	21	18	4	3	56	31	58	94	3
Huddersfield	23	13	3	8	42	27	45	40	3
Dagenham	19	14	3	28	22	42	20	40	3
Weymouth	25	12	4	3	52	34	54	84	4
L'Heath	22	14	4	4	45	21	40	40	4
Walsley	23	17	2	3	52	34	54	84	4
Sutton	23	12	2	4	34	38	20	40	5
Longton	24	11	3	3	42	34	34	40	5
Barking	26	9	11	6	48	33	34	40	5
Widnes	23	11	3	3	42	34	34	40	5
Bishop's	21	10	2	3	30	39	32	34	5
Sheff	24	10	3	3	36	39	32	34	5
Hendon	24	8	11	3	32	21	29	20	5
Sheff	24	8	11	3	32	21	29	20	5
Hayes	23	6	11	3	31	31	21	20	5
Woking	24	6	11	3	31	31	21	20	5
Stoke	23	6	11	3	31	31	21	20	5
Clapton	23	6	11	3	31	31	21	20	5
Altrinch	16	2	3	3	24	34	17	10	5
Bromley	24	4	11	6	18	15	12	13	5
Waltham	25	3	3	19	21	70	12	13	5

* 8 points deducted - Council decision
 Total: November, 1974.

ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	C
Dunwich	22	19	1	2	48	13	58	
Ilford	4	5	6	5	6	5	6	
Enfield	25	14	3	8	42	27	45	
Dagenham	19	13	3	3	48	22	42	
Wygomb	21	12	6	3	36	22	42	
L'head	20	12	4	4	45	21	40	
Waltham	20	12	4	4	45	21	40	
Telting	23	12	2	9	44	32	48	
Kingston	25	11	1	13	31	40	34	
Barking	26	9	6	11	46	48	33	
Ward	26	9	6	11	46	48	33	
Slosh's	21	11	0	2	93	29	29	
Bishop	22	8	5	9	36	31	29	
Hendon	24	8	5	11	32	41	29	
Ward	26	9	6	11	46	48	33	
Hayes	26	6	11	13	41	24	1	
Woking	24	6	12	6	28	24	2	
L'stone	23	6	12	20	30	23		
Woking	24	6	12	6	28	24	2	
Bromley	16	5	2	9	24	34	17	
Hitchin	24	4	1	19	16	52	13	
Walton	25	3	1	19	21	70	12	

* 8 points deducted - Council decision

29th November, 1974

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ALL THE HEROES!



Middlesbrough skipper and centre half Stuart Boam moves in to tackle but can't stop Tony Horsman putting in an overhead kick from this set-piece during the second half of Saturday's third round F.A. Cup tie at Loakes Park.

Brave Wanderers give Charlton's men the shock of their lives

"NO HOPE" outsiders Wycombe Wanderers came so close to pulling off one of the biggest shocks in the history of the F.A. Cup on Saturday. With a shade more luck — a matter of inches on two occasions — the Blues could have clinched their most memorable victory ever.

In the end they finished with a memorable 0-0 draw with one of the best teams in the country — joint Division One leaders Middlesbrough — having given them one of their toughest games for a long time.

Before this game, which had attracted more interest and publicity than any other in the club's 90 years, Wycombe were written off by almost everyone.

That included their manager, Brian Lee, who had stated: "We've got no chance."

But from the very first whistle, the players, many of whom had said they, at least, felt they had a chance, fought like tigers throughout the game to finish with far more credit than their celebrated opponents.

I have never seen such sheer effort from a team before. Everyone gave 110 per cent, working for each other and bringing the reward of the club's best ever performance in the F.A. Cup. It was a fitting display to mark their first third round match.

With a shade more luck the champagne afterwards could have tasted that much sweeter. For Wanderers twice could have snatched a goal which, on the day, looked enough to clinch the verdict. The reason they didn't was due mainly to Middlesbrough's two towering central defenders Stuart Boam and Willie Maddren. These two big Wycombe players to only a handful of chances.

Whether the Blues can pull off a victory at Ayresome Park tonight (Tuesday) remains to be seen. I said before Saturday's historic game that the result was immaterial. The same applies. Wycombe Wanderers have thrilled thousands with their F.A. Cup feats this season — as the 12,000 fans on Saturday will testify.

To pick out individuals in a superb team performance might seem unfair but four men do deserve special mention. Blues' centre-back Keith Mead looked every bit as good as his opposite number Maddren on the day while full-back Paul Birdseye will not play a better game all season. In midfield Terry Reardon frustrated dangermen Graeme Souness constantly and played a key role in clinching the draw. Up front Steve Perrin excelled, looking the most dangerous forward on the field.

But it wasn't just those who made Saturday a tremendous occasion. Everyone deserves praise. The officials, the magnificent crowd and of course, those 12 men in blue who fought throughout the 90 minutes.

cameras stationed at various points around Loakes Park, the team came out to a tumultuous reception.

Club chairman Jack Snelhurst, in Wycombe General Hospital, was saluted by his players as they lined up on the half-way line and as both sides warmed up, the actual size

surprised by Wycombe's adventurous play, decided on safety-first at all costs. Passing back to Platt whenever danger threatened, they took no chances whatsoever. I lost count of how many times the ball was booted out of play by the defenders.

This defensive attitude won

ferently and with this vocal support, the players went from strength to strength.

The tremendous ovation given to Wycombe when referee Porter blew the half-time whistle was richly deserved. The home team had done better than many expected not only holding Middlesbrough to 0-0, but

form, it looked likely that only a mistake would give Wycombe their deserved breakthrough.

That error never came. There were the odd moments of danger in the Boro area, though, with Perrin and Birdseye both going close. And when one attack broke down, another was formed almost immediately. It was this constant flow that brought the taunts of Easy! Easy! from the crowd.

There was very little the visitors could do about it. With Reardon everywhere in midfield, Souness had an uncomfortable afternoon and as Middlesbrough began playing more and more defensively, they presented Wycombe with more and more time and space.

The Blues, in fact, had more of both these commodities than would normally be expected in a league game.

But the question of breakthrough was still very much in the mind. Just how were Wycombe to get through that mass of red shirts? Phillips almost found the answer in the 70th minute — the closest Wycombe came to a goal.

Spraggon brought down Perrin in desperation on the top wing for a free-kick. Wycombe's two centre-backs came up for the set piece and as Reardon's kick came over Phillips raced in at the far post. Alan got full power behind his far post header but John Hickton's pressure made all the difference between a goal and the close shave that resulted. Platt, helpless in the middle of his goal, would have stood no chance had the ball gone six inches the other way.

Wanderers, by now, were playing with real confidence. Instead of hammering the ball clear, the defence laid off some fine passes to the midfield men and maintained the pressure on Middlesbrough. Unfortunately for Wycombe, Boam and Maddren were giving nothing away. Neither made an expensive error all afternoon while the burly Crags rarely missed a tackle on the flanks.

With these players in such fine

Wycombe Wanderers 0, Middlesbrough 0 STUART EARP AT LOAKES PARK

of the Middlesbrough men really began to sink in. There was the massive captain Boam, who compared with Tony Horsman looked like Goliath. There was the broad John Crags who seemed at least twice as wide as Blues' full-back Gary Hand.

When the match got under way, the size difference scarcely mattered. From the kick-off, Wanderers, showing few signs of big match nerves, began chasing and harassing their opponents. Limiting Middlesbrough's time and space, the home players nearly always made themselves first to the ball with skipper Alan Phillips setting a prime example to his men.

In the opening minutes Phillips gave away a corner but when Wanderers broke out after Frank Spraggon's poor flag kick and strong three passes together at speed, they were well and truly in the game. It seemed the home side were hell-bent on not only containing the opposition, but playing their best football too. They succeeded beyond their wildest dreams.

Their confidence was boosted even further in the fourth minute. Perrin beat Spraggon for the first of many times and saw the ball into the net. The sent Birdseye strung through and Paul's firmly struck shot flew just wide of Jim Platt's upright.

Although Middlesbrough, no doubt

'Boro few friends at Loakes Park. I, like many, had expected to see a top First Division side in action. We expected at least some flair in attack and some invention from midfield. But such was the Wanderers work rate, the visitors just didn't have time to entertain at all.

One man who looked likely to test Wanderers was their top striker Alan Fogg. He got himself into scoring positions often in the early stages but his finishing was disappointing. And with Wycombe — Birdseye in particular — breaking up their raids with fine tackling and a string of interceptions, it was the Blues who stole the initiative.

A corner on the bottom flank almost brought a goal after 19 minutes. Howard Kennedy drilled a firm kick right into the heart of the 'Boro box and Platt was in real trouble fisting the ball off his line as the strikers closed in. Foggon replied with a surging run of 20 yards right down the middle but John Maskell, who must have had his quietest afternoon for a long time, dived to take the difficult bounce.

Wanderers were unperturbed. Maddren had to bump the ball clean over the bottom stand in the 25th minute, then seconds later Kennedy volleyed over the top and Reardon flashed in a drive which was blocked by Boam. These brave efforts had the crowd roaring their side on

(testing them with brave attacking football).

Any fears that Wycombe would have burnt themselves out after that first half performance were soon dispelled when they resumed their all-out attack from the restart.

In only the second minute of the new half Seanie sent Mick Holfield racing down the flanks. Mick's pace took him clear of Peter Brine and his low cross to the near post had 'Boro really stretched. Perrin swooped in with a defender but the ball ended up just the wrong side of the post. Three minutes later Kennedy set up Perrin on the flank and after beating Spraggon, Steve crossed low and hard into the box. Catching the Middlesbrough defence wrong-footed the ball fell right into Holfield's path and his vicious first-time drive flew into the crowd. Had the shot been on target, Platt would have known very little about it.

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Unfortunately for Wycombe, Boam and Maddren were giving nothing away. Neither made an expensive error all afternoon while the burly Crags rarely missed a tackle on the flanks.

With these players in such fine



Above: Wycombe Wanderers midfielder hero Terry Reardon, who played a major role in his side's success, slides in to tackle Middlesbrough top scorer Alan Fogg. Below: Tony Horsman, marked as ever by Stuart Boam, takes the ball out to the wing to set up one of Wycombe Wanderers many attacks in Saturday's 0-0 draw.

WYCOMBE FLY UP FOR THE REPLAY

CUP heroes Wycombe Wanderers flew up to Teesside Airport last night (Monday) for their first-round replay with Middlesbrough. And before he left, manager Brian Lee reported a full strength squad for the game.

But once again, Brian maintained his team had no chance for the game. "I can't see that we have any chance at all," he said. "Professionals play a different game at home and I think we'll probably get murdered." They didn't play as well as expected on Saturday. We didn't allow them to play. But it will be different tomorrow."

The Blues flew from Heathrow yesterday evening but will be making the return trip by coach, arriving back about 5 a.m. This morning they trained at Middlesbrough's training ground, having spent the night at a Teesside hotel.

Jack Chay, who expressed his relief after drawing Saturday's intriguing encounter, will not select his team until shortly before the kick-off.

Middlesbrough have one injury worry. David Mills, the England Under 23 international, strained an old calf injury at Loakes Park and is rated as doubtful. Peter Brine, who came into the side for the suspended Bobby Murdoch on Saturday, may also lose his place after a poor performance. Boro may move John Hickton to midfield and bring in Peter Willey (Saturday's substitute) up front.

Although Middlesbrough are expecting a 25-30,000 crowd tonight, Wanderers are sure to be well represented. Yesterday, four coaches were already booked up with several others available while many supporters will make the five-hour journey by car.

ON OTHER PAGES

AS well as our colour pictures on the front and back pages this week, Mid-week brings you two full pages of Saturday's action between Wycombe Wanderers and Middlesbrough. On page 19 there are several fine action studies of the match while page six concentrates on the magnificent crowd that almost cheered their side to victory.

Friday's Bucks Free Press will, of course, give you a full run-down on the replay at Middlesbrough plus more pictures from both games.

On page 18 this week in Mid-week there's full reports on the Marlow, Burnham, Chalfont and Amersham plus a Wycombe League round-up and golf.

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Official attendance: 12,000.